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# Oregon Congressmen Divided On U.S. Involvement In South Viet Nam

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WASHINGTON (Special) —

While Sen. Wayne Morse still stands alone within the Oregon congressional delegation in criticizing American involvement in Viet Nam, the delegation is not uniformly backing President Johnson.

Rep. Edith Green opposes any expansion of the war, and Rep. Wendell Wyatt objects to the secrecy of the administration's plans and operations. Rep. Al Ullman and Rep. Robert B. Duncan are backing the President.

Morse has been outspokenly against using U.S. military personnel in Viet Nam. He contends any military operations should be handled jointly by a number of anti-Communist governments or the U.S. should withdraw. He has urged the UN to take charge.

Rep. Green is not unsympathetic to Morse's point of view but she has never actually

joined him. The farthest she goes now is to say: "I'm violently opposed to expansion of the war. It's ridiculous to think we can do what the French couldn't do (in trying to win a ground war in Asia)."

Asked if she considered the American bombing raids on North Viet Nam to be expansion of the war, Mrs. Green said: "It's hard to make a judgment on that, but it could lead to expansion of the war."

"I'm becoming increasingly concerned over our involvement through the CIA in overthrowing of governments with whom we may or may not agree," she asserted. "Our participation in Viet Nam certainly hasn't led to any stability there. Honest questions could be raised about our strong criticism of 11,000 North Vietnamese in South Viet Nam when we have 23,000 American military personnel in South Viet Nam. Pretending our soldiers are just advisers is a distinction without a difference."

Rep. Wyatt, Oregon's only Republican, said congressmen are handicapped by lack of information beyond what they can find in magazines and newspapers.

"I don't think the administration has been telling the people the full story," Wyatt said. "The people are entitled to know more."

## Johnson Remains Mum

He recalled that before the election President Johnson went on TV to tell of his decision to fire on North Vietnamese vessels that fired on American destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin. But Wyatt said the recent air raids "are much more serious" and yet the President has not publicly explained the situation.

Wyatt nonetheless said he supported the decision to make the air strikes. He said they were necessary to counteract

a losing trend in South Viet Nam. Vietnamese, but only the President has the information to judge which is preferable.

"We were obviously losing our position in South Viet Nam, and in the process our young men were bleeding and dying," Wyatt observed. "If I had a son killed in Viet Nam, I would be an extremely bitter father because we are fighting a losing cause and I don't think we should fight a losing cause."

## Duncan Recalls War

Wyatt said he would object to a negotiated settlement that would create a neutral government for fear it would fall prey to Red China. He said the U.S. should maintain a strong military position in Southeast Asia.

Rep. Duncan recalled the bloodshed of Americans who fought for four years in the Pacific to free this area from Japanese control in World War II. He thinks it is important to hold the line in Viet Nam against Communist aggression lest all this region go Communist.

Rep. Ullman thinks the President "had no alternative but to retaliate" against North Viet Nam. He said it was fortunate McGeorge Bundy, the President's national security adviser, was on the scene.

For the future, Ullman said the alternatives are a high level conference to discuss "the whole problem of Southeast Asia" or continuation of attacks against the North